

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image sensing apparatus comprising:
 - a setting state determination device which determines a setting state of the image sensing apparatus in image sensing;
 - an exposure calculation device which performs photometry for image sensing to calculate an exposure level upon an image sensing preparation instruction by an image sensing preparation instruction member;
 - an exposure level calculation device which calculates an exposure level of an image signal output after image sensing;
 - an exposure correction calculation device which calculates an exposure error value from the exposure level calculated by said exposure calculation device and the exposure level of a sensed image that is calculated by said exposure level calculation device, and calculates a correction amount of the exposure error value on the basis of at least one of the setting state of the image sensing apparatus that is obtained by said setting state determination device, an operation state of the image sensing apparatus, and an object brightness state in image sensing; and
 - an exposure error correction device which corrects an exposure error of the sensed image by using the correction amount calculated by said exposure correction calculation device.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the setting state of the image sensing apparatus
includes at least one of a state in which an exposure
correction value is set, a state in which an exposure
5 condition obtained by photometry is held, a state in
which a photometry method is set to spot photometry, a
state in which a manual exposure mode is set, and a
state in which a long shutter mode is set, and

when any one of the states is set, said exposure
10 correction calculation device does not calculate the
correction amount of the exposure error value, and said
exposure error correction device does not correct the
exposure error of the sensed image.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
15 the setting state of the image sensing apparatus
includes a state in which a flash is so set as to emit
light, and

when the flash is so set as to emit light, a
correction width of the correction amount of the
20 exposure error value is changed in consideration of at
least one of a flashlight amount, a distance to an
object, a stop state, and a setting sensitivity.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the operation state of the image sensing
25 apparatus includes a state in which an image sensing
processing start instruction is received from an image
sensing start instruction member before an end of

exposure calculation processing by said exposure calculation device that starts upon reception of an image sensing processing preparation start instruction by the image sensing preparation instruction member,

5 and

when the image sensing processing start instruction is received before the end of exposure calculation processing by said exposure calculation device, an image is sensed at an exposure value

10 obtained during exposure calculation processing, said exposure correction calculation device calculates the correction amount of the exposure error value by using information in exposure calculation so as to obtain a sensed image at correct exposure, and said exposure error correction device corrects the exposure error of the sensed image by using the correction amount.

5. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein when the image sensing processing start instruction is received before the end of exposure calculation

20 processing by said exposure calculation device, and the setting state of the image sensing apparatus includes at least one of a state in which an exposure correction value is set, a state in which an exposure condition obtained by photometry is held, a state in which a photometry method is set to spot photometry, a state in which a manual exposure mode is set, and a state in which a long shutter mode is set, exposure starts after

a correct exposure value is calculated at the end of calculation processing by said exposure calculation device.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, in
5 an operation state of the image sensing apparatus in which an exposure state is held upon pressing the image sensing preparation instruction member, when a state in which an image sensing start instruction member is not pressed is held for not less than a given threshold
10 time after the image sensing preparation instruction member is pressed, said exposure correction calculation device does not calculate the correction amount of the exposure error value, and said exposure error correction device does not correct the exposure error
15 of the sensed image.

7. An image sensing method comprising:

a processing step of determining a setting state of an image sensing apparatus in image sensing;

a processing step of performing photometry for
20 image sensing to calculate an exposure level upon an image sensing preparation instruction by an image sensing preparation instruction member;

a processing step of calculating an exposure level of an image signal output after image sensing;

25 and

a processing step of calculating an exposure error value from the exposure level obtained by the

photometry and the exposure level of the image signal,

wherein a correction amount of the exposure error value is calculated on the basis of at least one of the setting state of the image sensing apparatus, an

5 operation state of the image sensing apparatus, and an object brightness state in image sensing, and an exposure error of the sensed image is corrected using the correction amount.

8. A program characterized by causing a computer to
10 execute a processing procedure having

a processing step of determining a setting state of an image sensing apparatus in image sensing,

a processing step of performing photometry for image sensing to calculate an exposure level upon an
15 image sensing preparation instruction by an image sensing preparation instruction member,

a processing step of calculating an exposure level of an image signal output after image sensing, and

20 a processing step of calculating an exposure error value from the exposure level obtained by the photometry and the exposure level of the image signal,

wherein a correction amount of the exposure error value is calculated on the basis of at least one of the
25 setting state of the image sensing apparatus, an operation state of the image sensing apparatus, and an object brightness state in image sensing, and an

exposure error of the sensed image is corrected using the correction amount.

9. A computer-readable recording medium characterized by recording a program defined in claim

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